Reduction in interest rate on loan

2545. SHRIMATI S. G. INDIRA: Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to reduce the interest rate on loans given for starting agro and rural industries and whether appropriate authorities would be recommended suitably in this regard;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI SANGH PRIYA GAUTAM): (a) to (c) The Government is pursuing a vigorous policy of promoting agro and rural industries in the country. All concerns of this sector, including those relating to interest rates on loans given for starting agro and rural industries, are considered on a continuous basis by the Government.

Funds allocated for PMRY in U.P.

†2546. DR. AKHTAR HASAN RIZVI: Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether any funds have been allocated to Uttar Pradesh under the Pradhan Mantri Rozgar Yojana in the year 2002-03; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI SANGH PRIYA GAUTAM): (a) and (b) Under the Prime Minister's Rozgar Yojana (PMRY), the Central Government releases funds for Subsidy as well as for Training and Entrepreneurial Development, Contingency etc. The funds for Subsidy are authorised to the Reserve Bank of India for passing on to the individual beneficiary through the implementing banks. The funds for Training and Entrepreneurial Development, Contingency etc. are released to the States/UTs directly. An amount of Rs. 204.37 lakhs has been allocated to Uttar Pradesh for Training and Entrepreneurial Development, Contingency etc. under the PMRY during the year 2002-03.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.